7/13/65
NEA:NE:WDWolle:rf:cfh
(Drafting Office and Officer)

SECRET

This document consists of 1 pages
Number ... of ... copies, Series A

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

725

38

DATE: July 8, 1965

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY
RDS or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED
RELEASED/DENIED
RELEASABLE
PA FOI EXEMPTIONS
DATE 2/1/84

SUBJECT: Jordanian Interest in Military Aircraft

1965 JUL 14 AM 7 53

CONFLO-PBR

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Paul Carton, Counselor, French Embassy
Mr. Harrison M. Symmes, NEA:NE
Mr. William D. Wolle, NEA:NE

COPIES TO:

21

NEA - 1
NE - 2
EUR/WE - 1
INR - 8
DOD/ISA - 2
AmEmbassy AMMAN
" LONDON
" PARIS
DEFREPNAMA, PARIS

During a visit by Mr. Carton for a general discussion of area problems, Mr. Symmes raised the matter of Jordan's interest in supersonic military aircraft and requested Mr. Carton to report to his government. Mr. Symmes said the US Embassy in Paris has been talking to the French Foreign Office about this. The US all along has been looking at Jordan in terms of the over-all Western interest in keeping Soviet arms out of that country. We consider Jordan the key to area stability and to the manner in which the Arab-Israel problem shapes up. Both France and the US have deep interest in Israel's continued security. The US has a special position in Jordan because of our extensive economic aid program. For political reasons we do not want to sell American jet fighters to Jordan, and we have told the Jordanians we will try to help them find Western European aircraft. Jordan may or may not have money for such a purchase but the Jordanians have been claiming that funds will be available from the United Arab Command. We do not honestly know if they have the money in hand, but the important thing at this stage is to keep talks going with the Jordanians. We have heard from the Jordanians that the French have turned them down with respect to these aircraft, but we are hoping the matter is still open or can be re-opened. We strongly urge the French to string out the talks with Jordan on this subject and, should a point be reached when talking is no longer possible, to come to us to consider the manner of proceeding rather than give the Jordanians a flat turndown. Mr. Carton promised to relay the above to Paris.

DEF 12 JORDAN

GROUP 3
Downgraded at 12-year intervals,
not automatically declassified.

SECRET

FORM DS-1254
3-61

GPO 908992

2